

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EA-07 L-03 SS-15 (ISO) W

-----111221Z 023130 /20

P 110847Z APR 77

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6860

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 5192

STADIS//////////

PASS WHITE HOUSE FOR STR ONLY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ETRD JA

SUBJECT: DISCUSSION OF AGENDA FOR FUTURE TALKS ON COLOR
TELEVISION

1. SUMMARY. STR OFFICIALS MET INFORMALLY WITH MITI
REPRESENTATIVES TO DISCUSS A POSSIBLE AGENDA FOR THE RESUMPTION
OF TALKS ON COLOR TELEVISION EXPORTS TO THE U.S. THE
JAPANESE PROPOSED SEVERAL AGENDA POINTS COVERING QUESTIONS
SUCH AS DEFINITION, LEGAL ISSUES, AND THE TREATMENT OF
THIRD COUNTRY TRADE. END SUMMARY.

2. ALSN WOLFF AND RICHARD HEIMLICH OF STR, BARRACLOUGH
OF STATE AND PIEZ OF EMBASSY TOKYO MET INFORMALLY ON APRIL
9 WITH TOYONAGA AND KORODA OF MITI TO DISCUSS AN AGENDA
FOR RESUMED COLOR TELEVISION TALKS IN WASHINGTON. THE
JAPANESE SUGGESTED THE FOLLOWING:

A. DEFINITION OF ASSEMBLED AND UNASSEMBLED, COMPLETE AND
INCOMPLETE TELEVISION SETS;

B. BASIS FOR CALCULATING FUTURE TRADE, NOTING THAT U.S.
CUSTOMS AND ITC FIGURES ON ONE SIDE, AND JAPANESE
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CUSTOMS AND MITI FIGURES ON THE OTHER SIDE, ARE ALL
CALCULATED ON A DIFFERENT BASIS;

C. TARIFF CLASSIFICATION;

D. LEGAL ASPECTS, INCLUDING THE JAPANESE NEED TO
CHARACTERIZE THE AGREEMENT SOLELY AS JAPANESE EXPORT

RESTRAINTS APART FROM ARTICLE XIX OF THE GATT;

E. TREATMENT OF THIRD COUNTRY TRADE;

F. U.S. ACTIONS UNDER ARTICLE 337, WHICH THE JAPANESE
RECOGNIZE AS BEING SEPARATE FROM THE PRESENT NEGOTIATION
BUT WHICH THEY NEVERTHELESS WISH TO DISCUSS IN
WASHINGTON.

3. THE JAPANESE SAID THAT THEY WOULD NOT BE PREPARED TO
DISCUSS AGGREGATE LIMITATIONS ON FUTURE TRADE UNTIL THE
TALKS HAVE PROGRESSED FURTHER. WOLFF RESPONDED THAT THE
U.S. SIDE HOPES TO SETTLE THAT QUESTION QUICKLY. TOYONAGA
RESPONDED THAT VICE MINISTER MASUDA WOULD PROBABLY HAVE TO
SETTLE IT AT THE END OF A SECOND ROUND OF TALKS.
HE INDICATED THAT THE JAPANESE WOULD NOT HAVE A FINAL
POSITION ON IT BEFORE APRIL 16.

4. WOLFF URGED THE JAPANESE NEGOTIATORS TO COME TO
WASHINGTON WITH REAL AUTHORITY TO DISCUSS ALL ISSUES. HE
ASKED THAT HE BE INFORMED OF THE DATE OF ARRIVAL OF THE
JAPANESE NEGOTIATORS IN WASHINGTON AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.
HE ALSO ADDED THAT HIS DISCUSSIONS WITH THE JAPANESE ON
THE AGENDA DID NOT MEAN THAT HE ACCEPTED ANY OF THEIR
ARGUMENTS.
SHOESMITH

NOTE BY OCT: NOT PASSED WHITEHOUSE FOR STR.
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